



the Shelton Statement

A Publication of Shelton State Community College

Shelton's Enrollment Sets New Record

Enrollment at Shelton State this past fall rose to over 5200 students, setting a new record high for the college. Shelton continues to be the college of West Alabama as over 90% of the students are from West Alabama and 55% live in Tuscaloosa County.

According to Shelton President Tom Umphrey, the college received less money from the state last year while at the same time, educating more students. "This past year money received by the college from state appropriations decreased by \$272,000.00. Add to that amount the six percent budget cuts as a result of proration and you see there are serious problems."

"If Shelton State is to continue its mandate of offering education to the people of West Alabama then it becomes critical that we receive additional funding," Umphrey said.



Technical By Nature

Realizing that the work force of the future will be much different from the ones of the past, Shelton State Community College this year began upgrading and improving the college's technical programs.

Shelton State has revised and updated curriculum for several programs, and additional faculty members have been added to the technical teaching staff.

College Establishes Telecommunication Network

A telecommunications network linking Shelton State's Skyland Boulevard and Fifteenth Street campuses has been established and is now operational. Shelton State has received licensing from the Federal Communications Commission to operate the network which includes microwave antennas and towers and a satellite downlink system. Funding for the project was made possible through Shelton's Title III Strengthening Grant program.

During the first phase of the project, a Local Area Network (LAN) was completed. The purpose of the LAN is to improve education by offering classes, programs, and other projects from one campus to another. When the LAN is completed, it will include all of the college's campuses in addition to C.A. Fredd State Technical College and Shelton's off-site classes in Eutaw, Greensboro, Boligee, and Centreville.

Shelton has also applied to the National Telecommunications Information Agency/Public Telecommunications Facilities

Program for additional funding in order to complete the network. The final phase of the project will include equipping and bringing C.A. Fredd and Shelton's off-campus sites on line. When completed, the college will save approximately \$4,000 per year for each institution in telephone costs alone.

The system will provide the college with the capability and capacity for handling the studio/voice, video, and imaging and data needs of the college and will place Shelton at the forefront of the newest process of instructional program delivery known as "distance learning." Using telecommunications technology, "distance learning" literally takes education to the student.

Through the new telecommunications system, the college can prevent duplication of course offerings, reduce instructional personnel costs, and respond more effectively to needs in Shelton's service area.

Shelton Plans For New College Campus

When Shelton President Tom Umphrey announced in January that the college had purchased 170 acres of land that will be used to build a new campus for the college, the direction of Shelton State immediately took a new turn. The property is located on the old Highway 69 and is approximately three miles from the college's Skyland Boulevard Campus.

During the next two years Shelton State Community College will focus its efforts on securing the necessary funds to build the new campus.

Actually, the roots of Shelton State go back to the 1950's when former governor George Wallace was a member of the Alabama Legislature. Wallace, who is called the "father of the state's two-year colleges," was instrumental, along with state representatives A.K.

(Temo) Callahan and J.P. Shelton, in establishing Shelton State Trade School, now known as the college's Fifteenth Street Campus. By 1979, the school had grown and was named the Shelton State Technical College.

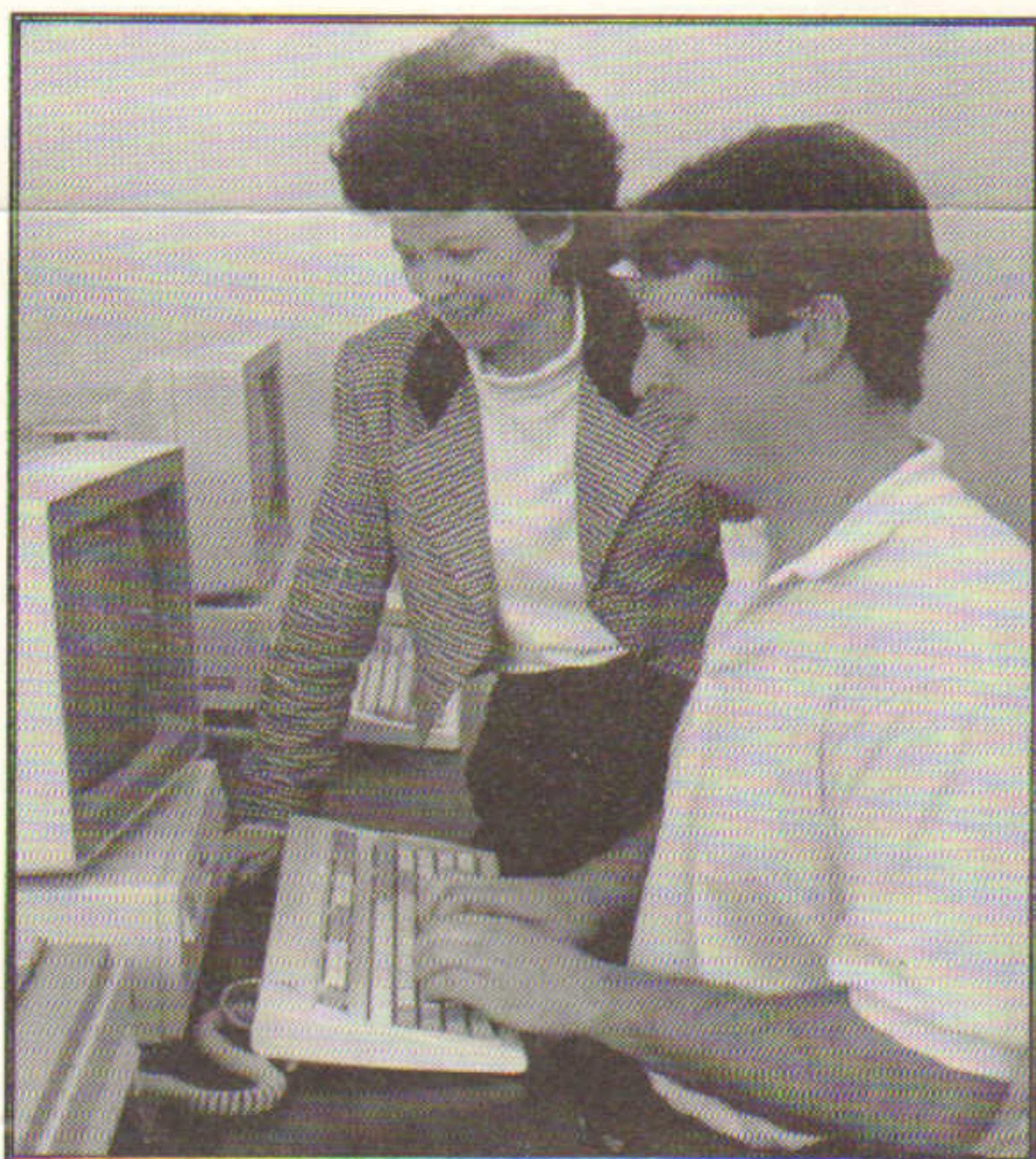
In the late 1970's Brewer State Junior College in Fayette, Alabama established a branch campus in Tuscaloosa. By 1978, the Tuscaloosa branch was larger than the Fayette campus. In January 1979, through an act of the Alabama Legislature, the Tuscaloosa branch of Brewer State and Shelton State Technical College were joined and Shelton State Community College was born. Leo Sumner, who was president of Shelton State Technical College, was named the president of the new institution.

Shelton State Continues Fight to Improve Education in the State

The issue of improving education in the United States is one that seems to be on the minds of most business and professional leaders, as well as traditional educators. Industry continues to complain that a trained work force is not now available.

Closer to home, the 1980 census indicates 6,000 people in Tuscaloosa County lacked fourth grade reading and writing skills. At Shelton State this past fall, 63% of entering students were required to take remedial English and reading courses. When looking at the college's technical programs, the problem becomes even more severe. Seventy-eight percent of the students entering Shelton's technical programs this past fall should take remedial English, and 74% should take reading. Ninety percent should take remedial math.

In Shelton's outlying service area the statistics



are even grimmer. Less than four percent of the people living in Hale County have college degrees. Residents in the Black Belt, which includes part of Shelton's service area, display the lowest levels of schooling in the state.

In an effort to improve the educational level of the people of West Alabama and to decrease the rate of illiteracy, Shelton State has initiated some new programs this year and strengthened existing ones.

The college continues its work with Project Literacy United States (PLUS) whose purpose is to decrease the number of people who are illiterate. Shelton provides the site for much of the training and tutoring in the West Alabama area. Shelton's reading instructor, Fran Turner, serves as the trainer for all the volunteer tutors in our area.

Last summer through the college's continuing education program, a reading enrichment program was offered for area youth in grades 1-7. Community response to the program was quite positive, and the college hopes to offer the enrichment program again this summer.

As part of its curriculum, the college each quarter offers developmental and college reading courses. The developmental courses are for high school graduates who are not yet reading on college level, as well as for people who are returning to school after an extended absence. The developmental courses work on building vocabulary and improving comprehension along with basic study skills.

The college's reading courses are for students who are reading on at least a high school level and have a desire to increase their reading rate while improving their comprehension and vocabulary skills. These college courses will transfer for credit to other community colleges and to four year institutions.

In 1990-91 Shelton opened its new Success Centers located on both the Skyland and Fifteenth Street campuses. Using tutors, computerized software, and other audio visual aids, the Success Centers offer assistance in reading, writing, and math. As a centralized location, the centers are open to all students interested in raising their individual learning levels. In order to increase student success, the college now provides an individualized tracking system that monitors each student's progress.

Working with the Tuscaloosa city and county school systems, the college also offers free adult basic education classes on both the Skyland and Fifteenth Street campuses.

During 1990 Shelton State made a strong commitment to literally take education to the people in the college's outlying service area. For several years Shelton has offered classes in Centreville. This year that curriculum was strengthened and additional off-site centers were opened in Greensboro, Eutaw, and Boligee.

Today, almost one-fourth of families in the state are headed by a single parent, usually the mother. The college works closely with various agencies in the area in order to help these women make positive changes in their lives. Shelton's New Options program is a free 10-week program that offers help to displaced homemakers and single parents. Over 300 participants have been through the program over the past five years. The director of the program, Dr. Paula Sue Hayes, and counselor Dr. Betty Gibbons work closely with the participants.

United States Secretary of Education Governor Lamar Alexander has said that "the community college system is the nation's secret weapon in the struggle to train the nation's workforce." Locally, Shelton State works closely with area businesses and industries in the training and retraining of their workers. Classes are scheduled during the day, evening, and week-ends in the Morrison Industrial Training Center.



Straight Talk From The President

By Thomas E. Umphrey, President, Shelton State Community College

Proration and the possible lack of adequate funding in the future are factors contributing to Shelton State Community College raising tuition and possible scaling back programs. These moves will limit access to higher education for many people in West Alabama.

In the past, it's been part of our mission at Shelton State Community College to be financially and geographically accessible to the people of this area. Today, that mission is being threatened. The open door policy is slowly being closed.

Last fall we pared our fiscal 1990-91 budget as much as possible in anticipation of state financial problems. When proration was announced by the Governor in January, we were forced to slash even more from our budget. Now with the possibility of additional financial cuts looming in the future, I am deeply concerned for the future of Shelton State.

The Alabama State Board of Education has allowed the state's two-year colleges to increase tuition. Even with the increases, tuition for the two-year colleges will be considerably less than most other state colleges and universities. Shelton State is implementing its tuition increases as gradually as possible. However, the bottom line is that our students are still paying more for their education.

Access to education can be closed in many ways. You can close the door by not admitting students, reducing the number of programs offered and by not having the support services students need, such as counseling and tutoring.

These are the harsh realities currently facing

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Facts & Faces

An 86-year-old great grandmother was named Shelton's OUTSTANDING ALUMNUS in 1990. Mabel Harries, who was selected the most outstanding former student at the college, graduated this past May with a 3.8 grade point average. During her college career, Mrs. Harries captured just about every honor offered by the college. In December, the college's Spanish Club established The Mabel Harries Endowed Spanish Scholarship Fund, and in January, she was invited to join the board of directors for The Shelton State Foundation. MARTHA MCCURLEY, PHYLLIS STANLEY, and BEATRICE H. MORRISON were recognized by Shelton State Community College and The Shelton State Foundation for their professional and community efforts this past fall during the "Women Committed to

Excellence" awards sponsored by the Tombigbee Girl Scout Council. Mrs. McCurley, who is director of retention and student activities at the college, has received numerous honors including the 1990 Outstanding Alumna of the University of Alabama. In 1989 Mrs. McCurley was chosen by the Kellogg Foundation for one of its prestigious fellowships. Mrs. Stanley teaches adult basic education part-time for the college and for the Tuscaloosa County School System. She has been active in numerous organizations within the Tuscaloosa community. Mrs. Morrison, who was nominated by the Foundation, was recognized for her community efforts in Hale County. She and her husband, Lem, have worked with numerous philanthropic efforts throughout the state.



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Shelton State Community College.

The college recently purchased land for our new campus. When completed, the college will be able to serve up to 10,000 students. The potential for the community and the college is great. For the college to be inadequately funded at this time would be catastrophic. We need your help and support. We need your continued friendship. If you believe that what we are doing at the college is important, then we hope you will tell your friends, business acquaintances, and elected officials.

Air Conditioning and Refrigeration

One of the newly revised programs is the college's air conditioning and refrigeration department. A new curriculum and instructor will hopefully make Shelton State Community College's air conditioning and refrigeration department one of the college's top technical programs in the coming years.

The new instructor, James "Sonny" Logan, has scheduled classes to begin Summer quarter. According to Logan, the air conditioning and refrigeration program offers a great opportunity not only to the traditional college student but to adults who are interested in learning a new skill as well.

Today, business and industry with their rapidly changing technological improvements demand temperature, humidity, and dust controlled environments. Computer rooms and other sensitive sites must have atmospherically regulated situations in order to function correctly. Computer and other high-tech air quality controls and equipment must be properly installed and maintained by qualified technicians in order to ensure the consumer that the appropriate environment will be provided for particular circumstances.

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Friends of the College Campaign Kicks Off in 1991

The Friends of Shelton State, a support group for the college, is sponsored through the Shelton State Foundation but will also involve people from the college and the community. The primary purpose of the Friends is to raise money for scholarships to the college.

"There is a growing demand for scholarships for qualified students," said Shelton President Tom Umphrey. "The college offers several types of scholarships through the state, but the majority of those are given to graduating seniors from area high schools. Adult students, students with a great financial need or students returning to college often have trouble finding financial aid."

The cost of being a member of The Friends is low, \$50.00 a year for individuals, \$100 for a couple, and \$125 for a family. Several social

events are being planned this year as part of The Friends activities.

The Foundation funds scholarships each year through its general scholarship fund, The Thomas E. Umphrey Presidential Scholarship Fund. Other established funds receiving money through The Friends include: Alexander Life Writing Scholarship; Athletics - Baseball; Belinda Hughes Memorial Scholarship; Chemistry Scholarship; Cleny Renfroe Nursing Scholarship; Mabel Harries Endowed Spanish Scholarship Fund; McAbee/ Southern Heat Exchangers Scholarship; Music Scholarship.

To join The Friends, please send a check, along with your name and address, to The Friends of Shelton State, The Shelton State Foundation, c/o Lucy Kubiszyn, 202 Skyland Blvd. Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35405. For additional information, call 391-2221.

Yes, I want to be a FRIEND OF SHELTON STATE. Enclosed is a check for:

- ☐ \$50.00, Annual Membership (individual)
☐ \$100.00, Annual Membership (two people)
☐ \$125.00, Family Membership (more than two people)

Please apply my gift to the _____ Scholarship Fund.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Zip: _____ Telephone No. _____

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"Air conditioning for the home and office is no longer considered a luxury but rather is viewed as a necessity. Refrigeration is also essential for food preparation and preservation and will continue to be so in the future," Logan said.

"Traditional sources of energy such as fossil fuels and electricity will continue to play an important part in the air conditioning and refrigeration field, but non-traditional sources such as solar energy will emerge as alternative sources as more emphasis is placed on maintaining the environment. With new manufacturing developments and increased governmental regulations requiring improved efficiency, heat pumps are becoming the most widely used source of heat and air conditioning. New refrigerants are presently being developed due to the detrimental effect on the ozone layer by those currently in use. In the classroom, emphasis will be placed on recovery and reclamation of these harmful refrigerants and their proper storage," Logan said.

Logan is a graduate of Shelton State Community College and attended the University of Alabama and Auburn University. He has also attended factory-sponsored schools and seminars. He has 25 years of experience and has worked throughout the Southeast on both large and small installations and is knowledgeable about the latest equipment and developments in the heating and air conditioning industry. Logan has previously taught the evening air conditioning/refrigeration class at Shelton. He plans to incorporate the latest technology into the course in order for Shelton State graduates to be qualified air conditioning and refrigeration technicians. For more information on the program, contact Logan, 391-2421 or 391-2413.

Tech Prep

Everyone is talking about the new Tech Prep program and how it can potentially help education solve some of its current and most pressing problems. The actual concept for tech prep has been around for a number of years. However, it was only in 1990 that funding for tech prep actually became available when the Carl Perkins Vocational Act was passed by Congress.

The purpose of a tech prep program is to guide students into courses which will form a firm academic and technological foundation on which to build their future. This course of study is designed to give high school graduates a more technically-oriented educational background. Tech Prep, closely parallel to the college-prep course of study, is characterized by a blending of academic and vocational/technical competencies and by the raising of the level of expectations for students who have traditionally been a part of the "neglected majority."

Shelton State and high schools in our service area are participating in the establishment of a tech prep program for West Alabama. The college has been working with vocational/technical coordinators and superintendents from the Tuscaloosa city and county systems.

Commercial Drivers License Program

Anyone with a commercial drivers license must be tested by April 1992, according to the Alabama Department of Public Safety, and Shelton State Community College has been selected as one of three test sites for the state.

Over 600 people have been tested since the program began in October 1990. For additional information on the CDL program, call 759-1541.

Facts & Faces

DR. MILADY KHOURY-MURPHY, director of Shelton's wellness program, recently returned from the National Conference on Wellness and the Community College in Evanston, Illinois. Dr. Khoury-Murphy spoke at the conference, and Shelton's wellness program was selected as the only junior college wellness program in the South to be showcased at this conference.

Accompanying Dr. Murphy was the president and program director of Phifer Wire and Dr. Carolyn Miller, assistant director of the wellness center. Phifer Wire is one of the major participants in the corporate branch of Shelton's wellness program.

REGISTRATION FOR SUMMER QUARTER IS JUNE 10. CLASSES BEGIN JUNE 11. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CALL 759-1541.

THE SHELTON STATEMENT

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Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35405

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